

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 258715

11

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 USIA-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:WJKUSHLIS:JLR

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R 312205Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 258715

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, US, UR

SUBJECT: OPENING OF SOVIET EXHIBIT: "SCIENTIFIC SIBERIA"

REF: STATE 247316

1. SOVIET EXHIBIT "SCIENTIFIC SIBERIA" OPENED AT SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (NM H) EVENING OF OCTOBER 28. MIKHAIL LAVRENTYEV, VICE PRESIDENT OF USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, SPOKE FIRST. HE WAS FOLLOWED BY AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN, WHO ALSO READ A BRIEF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY BREZHNEV. ROBERT BROOKS, ACTING SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, THEN WELCOMED THE EXHIBIT ON BEHALF OF THE MUSEUM AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT. AN ESTIMATED 250 PERSONS, INCLUDING USIA DIRECTOR KEOUGH, ATTENDED THE OPENING CEREMONY AND RECEPTION WHICH FOLLOWED.

2. AFTERNOON BEFORE OPENING LAVRENTYEV AND NMNH OFFICIALS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE ON EXHIBIT WHICH WAS WELL ATTENDED BY US AND SOVIET MEDIA. VOA COVERED PRESS CONFERENCE AND OPENING FOR PLANNED FEATURE STORY. NMNH DIRECTOR PORTER  
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KIER WAS INTERVIEWED SEPARATELY FOR MOSCOW TELEVISION.

WASHINGTON POST STORY OF OCTOBER 30 HIGHLIGHTS REMARK BY  
NMNH DEPUTY DIRECTOR JAMES MELLO THAT EXHIBIT IS A "TEXT-  
BOOK" TYPE OF MUSEUM DISPLAY. POST ADDED COMMENT THAT  
EXHIBIT LOOKS TO FUTURE IN SUBJECT MATTER, BUT IS UNFOR-  
TUNATELY A "BACKWARD LOOK TO OLD-FASHIONED MUSEUM DISPLAY  
TECHNIQUES;" WE HAVE YET TO SEE OTHER US MEDIA COVERAGE  
OF EXHIBIT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** OPENING OF SOVIET EXHIBIT: "SCIENTIFIC SIBERIA"  
**TAGS:** OEXC, US, UR  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006